

## **LISTING OF THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A knob assembly for use with hot cooking utensils, comprising:  
a hand graspable metallic knob;  
a metallic bezel having a predetermined area size for the knob;  
a first heat insulating separator located between the knob and the bezel; and  
a second heat insulating separator located between the bezel and a cooking utensil to which the knob assembly is to be attached, the second heat insulating separator having a substantially solid, non-open body and having an area size substantially equal to ~~matching~~ said predetermined area size of the metallic bezel.
2. (currently amended) The knob assembly of claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein the first and second separator is disk-shaped.
3. (currently amended) The knob assembly of claim 2, ~~in which~~ wherein the first ~~disk separator~~ includes a ledge on which the knob rests without contacting either the bezel or the cooking utensil.
4. (currently amended) The knob assembly of claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein the bezel has a the predetermined area size larger than a corresponding area size of the knob.
5. (currently amended) The knob assembly of claim 2, ~~in which~~ wherein the bezel defines a well dimensioned to fittingly receive the first ~~disk separator~~.
6. (currently amended) The knob assembly of claim 1, further including a screw assembly for interlocking the knob, the bezel and the first and second separators.
7. (currently amended) The knob assembly of claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein the knob, the bezel, and the first and second separators have circular peripheral shapes.

8. (currently amended) The knob assembly of claim 2, ~~in which~~ wherein ~~the knob assembly is so assembled that~~ only the knob and a peripheral region of the bezel are visible when the knob assembly is attached to ~~the~~ a cooking utensil.

9. (currently amended) The knob assembly of claim 2, ~~in which~~ wherein the first and second separators are constructed of a heat conduction retarding and heat radiation retarding synthetic material.

10. (currently amended) The knob assembly of claim 9, ~~in which~~ wherein the material is nylon.

11. (currently amended) The knob assembly of claim 2, ~~in which~~ wherein each of the bezel and the first and second ~~disks~~ separators includes a respective hole for the passage therethrough of a screw ~~that is coupled~~ for coupling the screw with the knob.

12. (currently amended) The knob assembly of claim 2, ~~in which~~ wherein the knob has an outer surface that is bright colored.

13. (currently amended) The knob assembly of claim 2, ~~in which~~ wherein the knob ~~has the shape of~~ is shaped as an inverted cup ~~with~~ including a base and a skirt-shaped body, the base that has a larger diametrical size than ~~that of a~~ the skirt-shaped body of the knob.

14. (currently amended) The knob assembly of claim 2, further comprising ~~in combination with~~ a pot lid.

15. (currently amended) The knob assembly of claim 14, further including a bolt of the pot lid and at least one hole in the ~~disks~~ first and second separators and in the bezel for the bolt to reach the knob and to be fastened thereto.